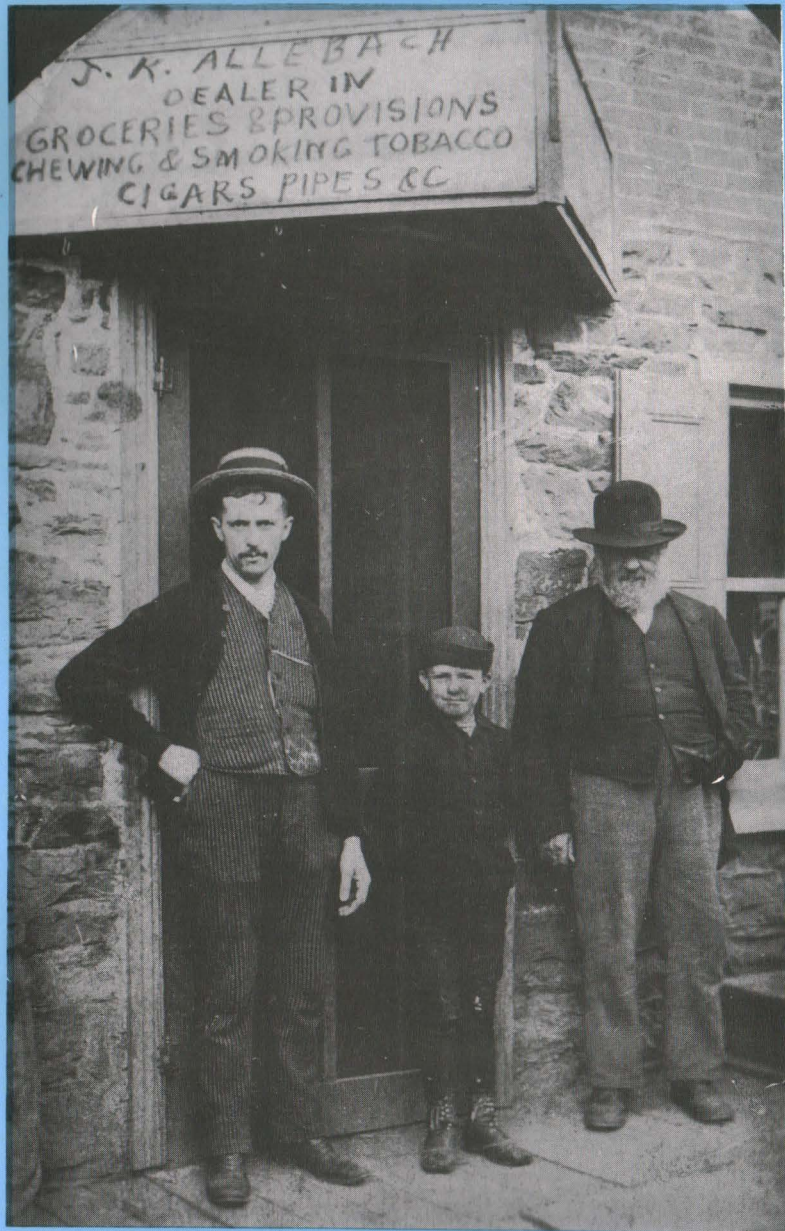


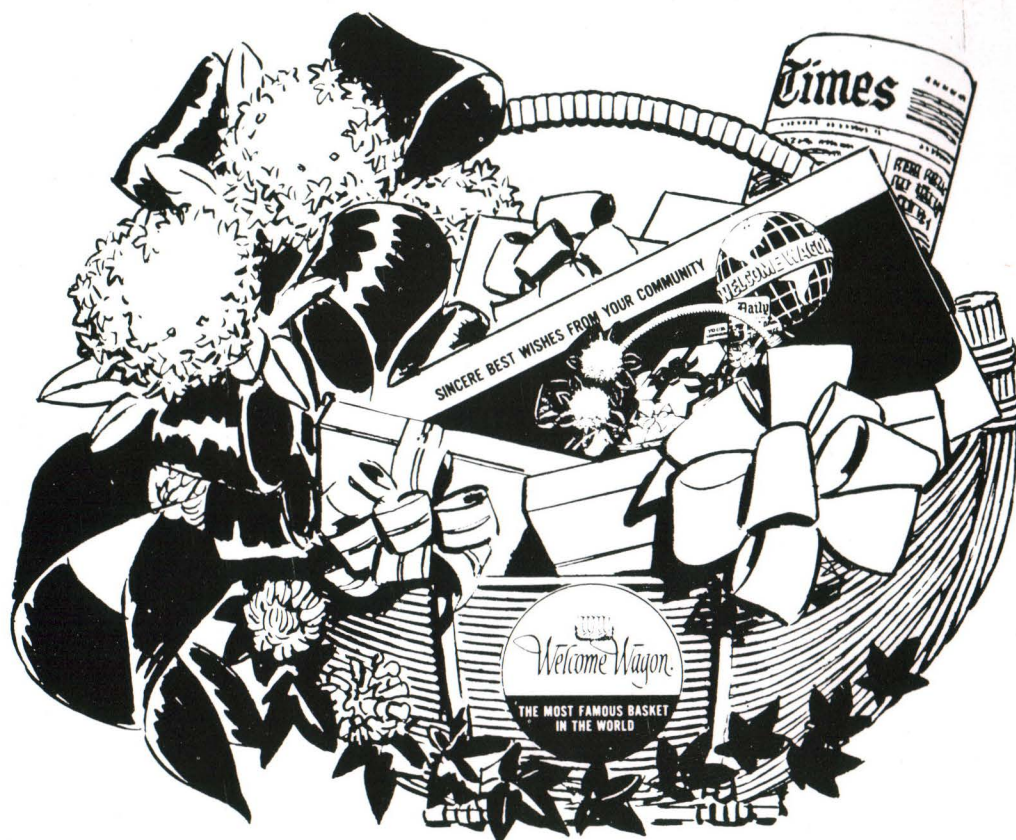
JANUARY * 1972 * 35¢

Bucks County **PANORAMA**



GHOST TOWNS
BUCKS COUNTY STATESMAN

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Bucks County **PANORAMA**

— The Magazine of Bucks County —

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COVER: Allebach's Store located in the Moyer and Son Feed Mill (1905).

CALENDAR of EVENTS

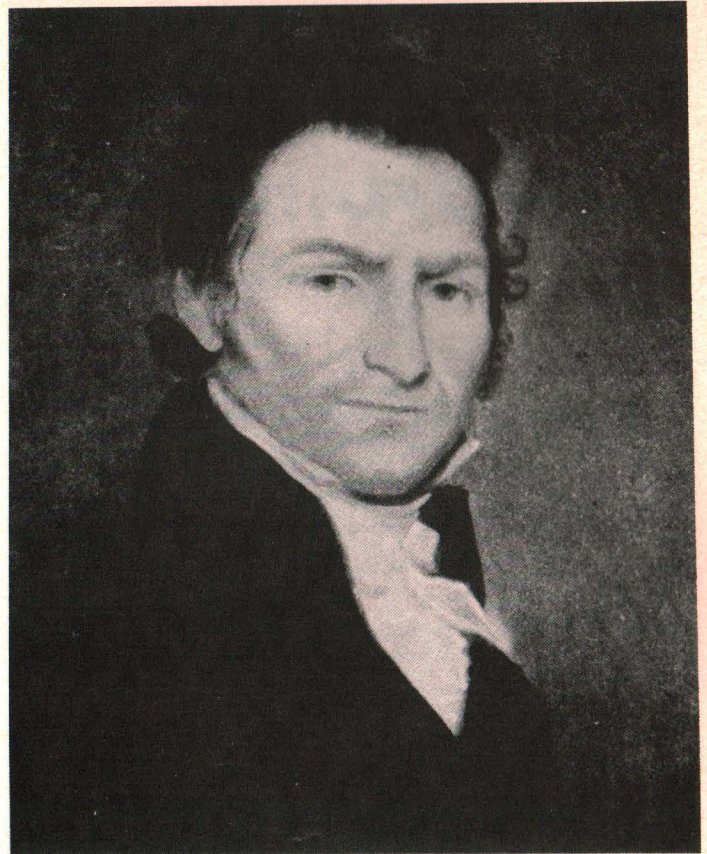
Courtesy of the Bucks County Historical-Tourist Commission
January, 1972

- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Narration and Famous Painting, "Washington Crossing the Delaware", Daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Memorial Building, at ½ hour intervals.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Thompson-Neely House furnished with pre-Revolutionary pieces, Route 32, Washington Crossing State Park. Open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Old Ferry Inn, Route 532 at the bridge. Restored Revolutionary furniture, gift and snack shop where Washington Punch is sold. Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Taylor House, built in 1812 by Mahlon K. Taylor, now serves as headquarters for the Washington Crossing Park Commission. Open to the public weekdays 8:30 to 5 p.m. Saturday 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.
- 1 - 31 MORRISVILLE — Pennsbury Manor, the re-created Country Estate of William Penn. Original Manor House was built in 1683. Open daily 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sundays 1 to 4:30 p.m. Admission 50 cents.
- 1 - 31 BRISTOL — The Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Museum, 610 Radcliffe Street, Victorian Decor. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. 1 to 3 p.m. Other times by appointment.
- 1 - 31 DOYLESTOWN — Mercer Museum, Pine and Ashland Streets. Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday, Library of the Society — Tuesday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Wed., 1 to 2 p.m. Admission — Adults \$1.00 and children under 12 — 50 cents. Special rates for families and groups. Groups by appointment. Closed January 1st until March 1st.
- 1 - 31 DOYLESTOWN — Moravian Pottery and Tile Works, Swamp Road, Route 313, North of Court Street, Sunday — Noon to 5 p.m., Wednesday thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: \$1.00 for adults, children 25 cents. Special Tours, Group Rates. Closed Christmas.
- 1 - 31 PINEVILLE — Wilmar Lapidary Art Museum. The Country's largest private collection of hand-carved semi-precious stones. Open to the public Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(continued on page 14)

BUCKS COUNTY STATESMAN

by H. Winthrop Blackburn



Samuel D. Ingham returned home almost as a conquering hero. He was met by a delegation in Philadelphia and was escorted to his home, Inghamdale, in Solebury Township, in what became a grand parade as it entered Bucks County. Samuel Ingham had left Bucks in 1813 to serve in the 13th Congress and now, in the spring of 1831, had just resigned his post of Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of Andrew Jackson; the highest public office ever held by a Bucks Countian.

Samuel Ingham was born at Inghamdale, the family home on York Road, on September 16, 1779. The family trade was fulling, the processing of woolen cloth, and the family operated a fulling mill along Aquetong Creek. Samuel's father, Dr. Jonathan, was better known as a physician and classicist. Samuel, as a boy, received a classical education until his father's death in 1793 when altered family circumstances led to his apprenticeship to a paper maker on the Pennypack Creek.

At the age of 20, having completed his apprenticeship, he was engaged to manage a paper mill in Bloomfield, New Jersey. He stayed in Bloomfield barely long enough to pick up a wife, Rebecca Dodd, and at 21 inherited the family property in Solebury and took up residence at Inghamdale. He built a paper mill, which he ran in

addition to the fulling mill and the farm, and embarked on a promising business career.

Politics was a popular sport in the early 18th century, much more so than today, and the young farmer-businessman enjoyed the sport immensely. He worked his way up through the grassroots Democratic organization; precinct worker, County secretary, and State Assembly until, in 1812, he was offered the party nomination of the District's seat in Congress. He was elected and served in the 13th, 14th, and 15th Congresses. Never neglecting business, he found time during this period to become one of the organizers and first president of the New Hope Delaware Bridge Company.

In 1819, after the completion of the first session of the 15th Congress, Rebecca was ill so Samuel resigned and returned to Inghamdale. He filled in his spare time by serving as Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County and Secretary of the Commonwealth. Rebecca died and in 1822 Samuel married another New Jersey girl; Deborah Hall of Salem. The Congressional seat was available that year and Samuel ran and returned to Washington.

Samuel D. Ingham was not one of the giants of the House of Representatives. He never made a notable speech on the floor, but his business experience made him an effective in-fighter on the committees. Most

of his committee assignments were financial, reflecting his business interests, but he also served, at various times, on the Post Office and Public Roads Committees. In his first term in the House the man at the next desk was John C. Calhoun. While Ingham never espoused nullification or other radical states rights causes, he and Calhoun became firm friends; a friendship that was to help carry Ingham both in to and out of the Cabinet.

The 1820s were the decade of the New Democracy; the first era of the common man and unlimited economic opportunity and speculation. Businessman Ingham was caught in the Democratic tide and when Andrew Jackson entered the national political scene he became one of his strongest supporters. Throughout the 1824 campaign Congressman Ingham worked relentlessly for Jackson's election and, when the election was thrown into the House of Representatives, was one of the behind the scenes workers corraling supporters for his man. Finally, through a series of political deals, John Quincy Adams was elected President of the United States.

Ingham so thoroughly detested Adams, the archetype Federalist, that he wrote and circulated a pamphlet titled "An Exposition of the Political Conduct and Principles of John Quincy Adams," claiming that Adams was a monarchist, opposed to democracy, and sought to establish an aristocratic and hereditary government in the United States. John Quincy Adams was a great hater, and, as a result of his little pamphlet, Samuel D. Ingham joined the select list of those who have been hated by great men. The diary of John Quincy Adams is liberally sprinkled with uncomplimentary references to Samuel D. Ingham and others who "squirt round the House of Representatives, thence to issue and perfume the atmosphere of the Union."

The battle between the Jacksonian Democrats and John Quincy Adams raged for four years. Partisanship ran at just about its highest level in the history of the United States. Vituperation was the order of the day and much of the anti-Adams material issued from the pages of the *United States Telegraph*, a political rag subsidized in part by Congressman Samuel D. Ingham. In the 1828 elections the New Democracy came into its own and, in another cliff hanger in the House, Andrew Jackson was elected President of the United States. Bucks County's Congressman was again among those who had been in the forefront of Jackson workers both in the hustings and, when it really counted, in the House.

In 1828, long before civil service was thought of,

the President controlled every federal job. As one of the most faithful, Samuel Ingham expected a suitable reward; hopefully the position as Comptroller in the Treasury Department. Pennsylvania had been strong for Jackson in both '24 and '28 and the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation, feeling entitled to the greatest consideration, suggested Ingham as Secretary of the Treasury. Jackson was not convinced. His advisers, headed by Martin Van Buren, favored Louis McLane of Delaware, but the personal endorsement of Vice-President elect John C. Calhoun clinched the nomination for Ingham.

The announcement of the appointment sent shock waves through official Washington. Ingham's enemies, and there were many, called him unscrupulous and cunning. John Quincy Adams made a diary entry to the effect that there was a portrait of Ingham in the painting of the Last Supper. Even his political friends



THE SAMUEL D. INGHAM HOME on Route 202 at Aquetong.

were nonplussed. James Hamilton, Alexander's son but ardent Jacksonian, noted that it was a "bad choice. Ingham was not fitted for the situation. He had not one of the qualities required for the office." Margaret Bayard Smith, a close friend of the Inghams and sharp-eyed chronicler of Washington society, wrote that she "knew Ingham long and well. He is a good man, of unimpeachable and unbending integrity. But no one imagines him possessed of that comprehensiveness and grasp of mind, requisite for the duties of his new office. He will be faithful, this, no one doubts. Whether he will be capable, experience only can show.

The key post of Secretary of State in the new administration was given to Martin Van Buren of New York. Van Buren was able, but saw himself as Jackson's political heir, and his primary objective was realizing this inheritance. The rest of the cabinet was of no greater distinction than Ingham. John

(continued on page 24)



Springville Store (left), tollhouse (right), across Bristol Road.

ghost towns of BUCKS

by Ginny Clemens

Years ago the Bucks County countryside was dotted with little villages and hamlets. Most of the names were colorful, describing the physical characteristics of the surrounding land or the people that lived in the area. "Ville", a popular suffix in those days, was added on to many of the names — Breadyville, Rocksville, Buckmanville, Fountainville, Tradersville, and Springville. Others were Spring Garden, Ryan's Corner, Bull Town, Forest Grove, and Bridge Valley.

Most of these little hamlets had a general store at one time or another and many had blacksmith shops which often became garages later when the number of horseless carriages grew. A few had post offices where the local people could pick up their mail and newspapers from Philadelphia.

The early communities at intersections and forks were indispensable in the lives of the local homesteaders. The days of long, hard work made daily or weekly trips to pick up supplies and mail impossible. On many days the farmers worked from 4:30 A.M. until 10 P.M. A short walk or ride early in the morning or at the end of the day to the center of the neighborhood was a pleasant diversion for the men from their farms' constant, laborious duties.

After roads and bridges were built or improved, traveling became easier for the settlers. They were able to shop and visit in the bigger towns, even going to Philadelphia occasionally. Once long and tiresome

trips to Newtown, Doylestown and Bristol were faster and more pleasant. With the coming of the railroads, trips to Philadelphia became almost commonplace. Twice a year, the women in the area (not all of the women though — some never left their farms except for church and church activities) would take the train into Philadelphia to the big department stores, Strawbridge and Clothier, to buy suits for the boys or something not available in the local stores for the girls. Fare was half price for children over eight years and free for children under eight years so traveling in this manner was not expensive, and much more comfortable than a bouncing market wagon.

With the passing of time, these little villages either disappeared or merged with others to become one town under a different name. Now all that is left are a few old houses built in the 1700's and early 1800's, to prove their existence.

Breadyville was located at the intersection of Jacksonville and Bristol Roads, according to old maps. Now all that remains are a couple of old farmhouses, their barns and outbuildings, such as chicken houses, tool sheds, etc. Today this is in the borough of Ivyland.

Spring Garden was centered around the big mill on the Newtown-Richboro Road just west of the bridge that crosses Neshaminy Creek. The mill, built around 1819, supplied the local farmers. A covered bridge originally went over the creek, but it was destroyed in

the flood of 1955. The old home of the millers, the mill, a couple of farmhouses sitting on hills overlooking the area, the foundations of the covered bridge and traces of the old road are all that remain of this long ago community.

Ryan's Corner, probably named after an owner of one of the corners was just west of Newtown on Route 413 east of Wrightstown. Buckmanville, still remembered by many natives, was situated off Windy Bush Road on Lurgan Road. Tradersville, with indications of its past still remaining, occupied the intersection of Bristol and Lower State Roads.

Bull Town sprang up where Sacketts Ford Road meets Route 232. Hatboro Road begins here, too. A barber shop at this junction was remembered by one old-timer, who felt there must have been a store here, too. The barber shop was managed over fifty years ago by a man with one leg, nicknamed Stumpy. Stumpy loved to play poker so about 9:30 P.M. he would close his barber shop and have his friends in to play a couple of hands. There are still several old homes to be seen in this immediate area.

Typical of these little hamlets, (and there were many more than those I mentioned) was Springville. A mile and a quarter north of Southampton, Second Street Pike curves slowly to the right as Bristol Road, going east and west, crosses it. This intersection was Springville, once a bustling little community. There was a small store, a blacksmith shop and from twelve to sixteen houses and farms at various times. A tollgate for Bristol Road occupied the northwest corner, and it is still there, now camouflaged by additions, remodeled and used as a house. The charge for a team of horses pulling a wagon was five cents to go to Richboro and three cents to go to Southampton if you lived south of Bristol Road. You paid just the opposite if you lived north of Bristol Road. A single horse and rider had to pay just a few pennies.

The little store was in the big, white home on the southwest corner. Also in the store was the post office which handed mail out to approximately twenty local people. "Doc" Cornell, one of the old postmasters and owner of the little store was responsible for changing the name of Springville to Cornell. But the name was similar to Cornwell and several pieces of mail were delayed after being sent first to Cornwell Heights. The error realized would bring the mail to its correct postoffice, Cornell, and its rightful owners. In later years the post office was moved from the store to the tollhouse across Bristol Pike.

Another past owner of this house and store, Ed Hogeland, had a blacksmith shop on the property,

too. His father had made sure that Ed and all of his brothers had trades on which to rely and earn a living. One brother was a carpenter while Ed kept busy with his horse shoeing business. This home was built before the Revolutionary War. Its neighbor, to the south, a small deserted house, last occupied by the Bowman family and now all boarded up, is said to be even older.

Springville was named for the large number of springs that bubble up from the ground. Some formed a pond near the intersection which now has approximately thirty-six Mallard ducks and nine white, domestic ones nesting along its banks and in neighbors' bushes. The creek next to the pond winds through woods and fields, joins with another stream



Old Bowman House

on the ground behind the Eugene Klinger Jr. High School, meanders into Iron Works Creek and eventually flows into the Neshaminy Creek. With permission from the farmer that owned the land, the local boys used to dam up the creek at its fork behind the school to form a swimming hole. The Springville boys wouldn't allow the children from Southampton to use it, but it didn't matter because they had their own swimming place under the trestles of the railroad where it crossed one of the numerous creeks in the county.

The Spring House, just north of the old tollhouse, was built in 1779. It has an old spring house, still standing, which, until recently supplied the occupants of the house with clear, cold, good-tasting water. The early settlers always tried to build their houses next

(continued on page 27)



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Rambling with Russ

by
A. Russell Thomas

WORTHLESS CHECKS

Do you get many worthless checks? Recent surveys have been interesting and informative. Few merchants, doctors, filling stations, laundries, and banks escape this nefarious practice. Losses from worthless checks are substantial. It is bound to "flush the checks" of an individual who has been defrauded and he is sorely tempted to strike back. Most businesses do sign warrants on passers of worthless checks. A recent survey shows that most worthless check passers are convicted: most witnesses for business have to go to court more than once: it is almost unanimous that sentences meted out to those convicted are too light. Most businesses think it takes too long to prosecute passers of worthless checks.

I am firmly convinced that there has been too little thinking behind this check business both by merchants, individuals and the banks.

When a check-book becomes "Family property" for the use of husband, wife and children and each is allowed to sign checks without a real knowledge of what the bank balance is, it is not only a serious and dangerous procedure but it is a CARELESS way to do business. The late Dr. Allen H. Moore, who practiced medicine in Doylestown for many years, once told me that in all his years he never turned down a prospective patient because he did not have any money to pay him.

* * *

A MATERNITY SPECIAL: Someone wrote to the Institute of Life Insurance in New York to ask how much it was going to cost to have a child. It is quite evident it was his "very first" or he would have been previously appraised. The Institute figured out how much the average middle income family pays to have a child. Now listen to this quotation: From obstetrician's fee to birth announcements and baby booties, bills after the first week of infant's came to \$1,287.60 not including nursery supplies that would run you another \$340. Clothes for the high-priced bundle of joy were priced at Macy's and figured for a family with an annual income between \$7,500 and \$10,000.

Once the early bills are taken care of, you're ready for the big stuff. Clothing, feeding and schooling for a child from his first birthday to the day he turns 18 come to a whopping \$25,840. If a child goes to college, this could run you another \$5,000. My loyal friend, the late Dr. Moore started practice in the early 1900's as a general practitioner. His delivery fees ranged from (free) to \$5 to \$25. At times part of his pay was a country ham, several dozen eggs, smoke-house bacon, vegetables of all sorts and fruits. The infant usually landed in a well padded clothes basket and remained there until he could almost kick himself out.

Dr. Moore recalled CLOTHES. There were usually plenty of "hand-me-downs" from aunts, uncles, grandmothers and friendly neighbors. When the baby was baptized in the church one could not wish to see a sweeter, prettier creature in his long snow-white dress. Maybe he whimpered or cried when the preacher sprinkled water on his "newly-turned head" —but it was soon over and the day came when this "first born" followed a plow in the corn and cotton field, attended a "hog killing", mended fences and took care of a partly worn-out harness.

In those good old days, wild riots, "sassy kids", unruly teen-agers and drug addiction were unheard of.

* * *

THIRTY-ONE YEARS AGO(1940)

With such collegiate stars as William (Bill) L. Lowther, Earle J. Frick, Raymond D. Barney, Charles W. George, Willard L. Jones, Spurgeon B. Wuertenberger and William D. Zahniser in the lineup, assisted by several high school starlets, a fighting Doylestown High faculty nine walloped a Doayapo team, 17-8 on the Burpee Playgroudns. The Doayapoans' team was composed of Ed Dettry, who

(continued on page 26)



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THE MAGIC CARPET

by Denise M. Foley

She looks like a small, generously-stuffed scarecrow, with blue jeans, patched shirt, straw hat and sneakers. Her face: two beautiful blue eyes, two pink spots for cheeks, and a smile red from ear to ear.

That face means magic to youngsters all over Bucks County, like the children who have been coming every first Tuesday morning to the Warminster Library for the past four years to hear the Weave-A-Tall-Tale Lady spin a tale of fantasy.

"What's this?" she asks the upturned faces, pointing to the carpet they are sitting on.

"A magic carpet," she answers for them. "And when I sit on my magic carpet, and you sit on your magic carpet, you use your — it's a big word and it means 'pretend' but it starts with 'im'...imagination!"

You can see she is enjoying this as she hurries some bundled-up latecomers to the magic carpet, already on its way to some bright world with 40 youngsters aboard.

"When you use your imagination you can do anything in the world you want to...."

"Do," the children chorus. "...And be anything you want to...."

"Do," they chorus again. "To be," she corrects cheerfully.

The face breaks into a grin. Underneath the painted cheerfulness is the pretty face of former model Anita Miller, the Weave-A-Tall-Tale Lady who captivates children from two to twelve with stories of naughty princes and wooken puppets who want to be little boys.

The face is also magic to harried mothers and fathers burdened with 20 eight-year-olds armed with birthday cake and ice cream. The Weave-A-Tall-Tale Lady has a special magic at birthday parties. She can turn 20 noisy little devils into a captivated audience of angels.

Anita Miller, mother of two children, Mary Louise, 14 and Craig, ten, became the Weave-A-Tall-Tale Lady because of her "annoyance with other mothers."

"When Mary Louise was born," she explains, "we lived in a small court apartment and I used to watch some of the other mothers with their children. It just irked the life out of me to see mothers who pay little or no attention to their children. They were there the

allotted number of hours but they weren't doing anything when they were there. They were a warm body in the room. That's not enough to be a mother.

"I saw mothers taking kids out on walks and a kid would say, 'Mommy, what's that?' or 'Let's go see' and when a child puts his hand out and says 'Let's', anyone who pushes that child away has just destroyed initiative, just nipped it in the bud."

She is an enthusiastic exponent of what could be called "creative motherhood." When her own children were small, other mothers would bring their children — fussy eaters all — to Anita to be fed. She would sing and talk to them and they ate. She would sing to her infant daughter only to be interrupted by the downstairs neighbor who pounded on the ceiling and yelled, "Sing louder; I can't hear you!"

She now does a special feature for adults called "The Easiest Thing in the World is Raising Other People's Children" in which she relates some of the funny and poignant moments in her dealing with children.

One such moment came when she did a show for Head Start in a predominantly black Philadelphia school.

"The kids were, of course, facing me auditorium-style," she relates. "I noticed the children were sitting with their hands intertwined and their ankles crossed. With a group like this that I know gets restless quicker than another group, I do 'The ants go marching one by one, hurrah, hurrah' and the kids do it with me. They march in place and they're yelling 'hurrah, hurrah' and they really get with it. I didn't know till I left the room that these children are not allowed to untwine their hands or ankles and I had disrupted years of what they had worked on in the school."

The real payoff came when one little girl, staring with wonderment at Anita's blue eyes made up with bright blue eye shadow, marveled, "Nobody on my block got eyes like that, lady!"

The honesty of children always makes a delightful story, but it can sometimes be embarrassing. Anita recalls such an incident.

"There was one kid who got up and said, 'Do you know what my Daddy likes for breakfast?' And I said, 'No, sweetheart, what does your Daddy like for breakfast?' And she says, 'Beer!'"

That sends her off into peals of laughter.

Anita Miller's childhood was filled with magic — the magic of the theater. Her father was in vaudeville and later in the motion picture business. His family built the Aldine Theater chain.

Her mother took her at the age of 13 to see Helen

Hayes in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night".

"I went to see Helen Hayes and I was next to the shortest one in class at the time," she recalls. "And the fact that this little woman was up there made me think, 'Well, if she can do it what the heck! Who can?'"

At the age of 15 she met noted English actress Dame Judith Anderson.

"One spring my mother took me to see Maurice Evans and Judith Anderson who were doing 'Macbeth'," she relates. "Well, I'm a great note writer. I wrote notes to both of them telling them what they had in their audience and they were losing a sure thing if they didn't see me. I gave it to the usher and he brought back a note saying they would like to see me backstage. I almost died!"

Miss Anderson introduced Anita to British Shakesperean actor Maurice Evans who auditioned her on the spot and sent her to the Hedgerow Theatre Acting Company, Moylan — Rose Valley, near Media, Pa. She commuted there from her home in Jeffersonville, Pa., for two years.

At the age of 17, Anita went to New York and studied with the late Frances Robinson-Duff, dramatic coach of the Metropolitan Opera.

"She was a matriarch if there ever was one," Anita says. "She sat on a throne, an actual throne, and she wore long velvet robes and" — mimicking the haughty Miss Robinson-Duff — "projected from the diaphragm."

Anita also studied with Marguerite Haymes, mother of singer Dick Haymes, and at the Irving Berlin studios.

Her so-called "big break", a chance to understudy Jeannie Cagney, Jimmy's sister, in "The Iceman Cometh", disintegrated when she was rushed to the hospital for an emergency appendectomy.

But Anita Miller was undaunted. Both she and her husband, Leonard, have been active in the community; Anita was elected to the Warminster Township School Board in 1965, and both are members of the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. Anita's list of organizations served is too long to mention but whenever there is a need in the community, Anita is ready to lend a hand. She was recently honored by the Southeastern Council Navy League for her dedicated service to the community.

"Would you believe it if I told you that I get more gratification from what I'm doing working with children than I think I might get out of the steady grind of doing a Broadway play?" Anita Miller queries.

This time the Weave-A-Tall-Tale Lady isn't joking.



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(CALENDAR cont. from page 3)

- 1 - 31 DOYLESTOWN — National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road, Guided tours — Sunday 2 p.m., other tours upon request by reservations. Phone — 345-0600. Shrine Religious Gift Shop open 7 days a week 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free parking. Brochure available.
- 1 - 31 TELFORD — Lockwood Galleries, 345 Church Road. Paintings, sculpture, pottery and weaving exhibits. Hours: 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- 1 - 31 CHURCHVILLE — The Outdoor Education Center, Churchville County Park. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 2 to 5 p.m. Family Nature Programs — 2:30 p.m. Sundays.
- 1 - 31 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Ice Skating, "The Lagoon", near the western entrance to the park, weather permitting. FREE.
- 1 - 31 FAIRLESS HILLS — Ice Skating, "Lake Caroline", Oxford Valley Road and Hood Blvd., Weather permitting. FREE. Lights for night skating.
- 1 - 31 BRISTOL — Ice Skating, "Silver Lake", Route 13 and Bath Road, weather permitting. FREE. County Park. Lights for night skating — Sunday thru Thursday until 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m.
- 1 - 31 APPLEBACHSVILLE — Ice Skating, "Lake Towhee", Old Bethlehem Pike, weather permitting. FREE. County Park.
- 2 WRIGHTSTOWN — Bucks County Folksong Society, an evening of Folk Music at the Wrightstown Friends Meeting House Recreation Room, Route 413 — 7 p.m. FREE. (If you play an instrument, bring it along.)
- 8 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Boy and Girl Scout Nature and Conservation Instruction. Wildflower Preserve Building, Bowman's Hill. All Day.
- 9 ERWINNA — Winter Holiday, sponsored by the Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation, in Tinicum Park, River Road. 11:00 a.m. to dusk. Snow date January 16, 1972. Families are urged to attend.
- 15 to Feb. 13th APPLEBACHSVILLE — 2nd Annual Ice Fishing Clinic and Contest, Lake Towhee, sponsored by the Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation and the Pa. Fish Commission. For details and further information call 348-2911, ext. 305.
- 15 PLEASANT VALLEY — Pleasant Hollow Farms, Route 212, will hold a Clinic — "Basic dressage for the hunter, jumper and Western horse" and "What the judge is looking for in the hunter, jumper, Western horse and rider?"
- 13, 14, 15 YARDLEY — 20th Annual "Antique Show", Yardley Community Center, 64 S. Main Street, 11:15 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. (Sat. closed at 6 p.m.) Snack Bar 11:30 to 2:30 p.m. Dinners by reservation only.
- 29 WARMINSTER — The Warminster Symphony schedules a concert for the 1971-72 Season. For time and place call OS 5-4610.

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BOOKS IN REVIEW

THE FIFTY-SIX WHO SIGNED, by Sam Fink. The McCall Publishing Company. New York. 1971. 116 pp. \$4.95.

The season for books on the Declaration of Independence and its signers is upon us. It is refreshing, so early in the season, to find a book that portrays the Signers as the men that they were and not as the demi-gods that popular history so frequently portrays them.

The format of this book is extremely simple. One page of text, headed by a facsimile of his signature, is devoted to each signer and is faced by a one page drawing of the worthy with a pen in his hand. The technique is very effective. In his research Mr. Fink has captured the essential character of each of the Signers and distilled it into a few succinct paragraphs. The drawings, almost caricatures, complement the text and the result is a series of two page spreads that tell you more about the signers, as men, than you would find in a whole stack of biographies.

This is a vital part of the story of American Independence; a small but illuminating glimpse into the nature of the men who literally risked their necks by the simple act of signing their names. H.W.B.

BENJAMIN RUSH: REVOLUTIONARY GADFLY, David Freeman Hawke, The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc., Indianapolis, 1971. 490 pp. \$15.00

The term "gadfly" in the title is really an understatement. Medicine, education, science, religion, politics, and the abolition of slavery all received the divided attention of Benjamin Rush. In addition, he found the time to sire 13 children.

Though not a Bucks Countian, Rush bears a strong Bucks County imprint. His early education was at the feet of Samuel Finley, one of William Tennant's students at the Log College, and he received his



Benj. Franklin

degree at the College of New Jersey (Princeton). Throughout his life he approached everything with the fervor of Tennant's New Light Presbyterianism, and likened himself to the prophet Jeremiah; a "man of strife." With his wide interests and contentious nature, the opportunities for generating strife were many.

Known primarily as a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a physician, the depth of his involvement in all of his activities is truly amazing. Among other things he was the first Professor of Chemistry in America, founder of two colleges (Dickinson and Franklin & Marshall), first proponent of free public general education, and is considered the father of American psychiatry. Benjamin Rush

(continued on page 28)



WINTER at CENTRE BRIDGE

Centre Bridge is one of Bucks County's most charming little hamlets and is especially picturesque on a snowy day.

The late Edward Redfield, one of the County's best known artists, understood the beauty of winter at Centre Bridge and applied this knowledge to many of his paintings. Some of his Centre Bridge winter renditions have a blue snow, a technique he is well noted for.

First known as Reading's Ferry, this hamlet has a bridge that spans the Delaware to the Jersey shore. The original bridge was thus named Centre Bridge in 1811 because of its central location between the towns of New Hope and Lumberville.

The Centre Bridge Company was chartered by both Pennsylvania and New Jersey in 1811 and a covered bridge, the first of three to cross the Delaware River, was constructed that year.

Floods have left their mark on the Centre Bridge region. During the flood of January 8, 1841, a toll house, three spans and two piers were carried away. A man nearly lost his life when he was carried downstream to Wells' Falls. There he was rescued by an eyewitness to the freshet.





Another flood occurred on October 10, 1903. The old bridge was finally destroyed by fire on July 22, 1923 and replaced by a steel structure some years later. Of course, many people remember the flood of 1955 as being the most damaging to the area.

Sometime during each winter the hills and riverside woods surrounding Centre Bridge get covered with a bright blanket of snow. It makes the village all the more appealing to the driver on River Road.

The 'small town' atmosphere of this Bucks County hamlet is clearly felt by the passing traveler. He can see many of the old stone houses that are perched on hillside ledges overlooking the winding River Road; some old sheds and horse barns that have been converted into snow-capped garages, and the groups of mail boxes, snugly nestled together on wooden posts, silently awaiting the arrival of the rural mail carrier.

Story and Photos by

Christopher Brooks





BETWEEN FRIENDS

by Sheila Martin



Congratulations go to Mr. and Mrs. Warren Beans, Sr. of Lahaska who recently observed their 60th wedding anniversary, also to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kresge of Danboro and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schmidt of Ottsville who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Harold Williams of Levittown was named

permanent executive director of the Bucks County Community Center in Bristol by the Bucks County Board of Commissioners.

Deep in the wilds of Bucks County there lives a little old toymaker whose favorite people are little people. Dressed in a pair of denim overalls, a sweatshirt and houndstooth cap wilting over hair that nearly matches the length of his salt and ginger beard, Bill Muller could certainly have been mistaken for Santa. Bill has created Wooden Playthings -- toys of pure wood, with a unique and simple design, made without nails, screws or paint.

The Mullers opened their first giftshop, a converted woodshed, in Corinth, Vermont. The demand for Wooden Playthings soon became too much for Bill and his wife to handle alone. Several months ago, Educational Games, Inc., a Doylestown based company producing such fine educational lines as Montessori Motivational Toys, invited the Mullers to move to Bucks County, where as part of Progressive Playthings, Bill Muller now has the facilities and marketing assistance to meet the growing demand for his product.

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The Mullers have extended an invitation to everyone -- visit them at the workroom and toyshop located in Dublin, Pennsylvania on Route 313. This is one toyshop where the children are encouraged to play with the merchandise.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Lake Galena Reservoir and Peace Valley Park, New Britain Twp., were held on December 1, 1971.

The Reservoir will be a multi-purpose project located on the North Branch of Neshaminy Creek, New Britain Twp., approximately three miles northwest of Doylestown Borough. It will have a total storage capacity of 3,260 million gallons and has been planned to reduce flood damage as well as serve as a major component of the Neshaminy Basin Water Supply System. In addition, Lake Galena Reservoir will provide a 365 acre lake for recreational useage.

Surrounding the Reservoir will be 1,336 acres to be known as Peace Valley Park and will be utilized for picniking, camping and other eventual park development. It is anticipated that the Reservoir will be completed the latter part of 1972.

A Winter Holiday at Tinicum Park, Erwinna, will be sponsored by the Bucks County Parks and Recreation Department Sunday, January 9, 1972, 11 a.m. to dusk.

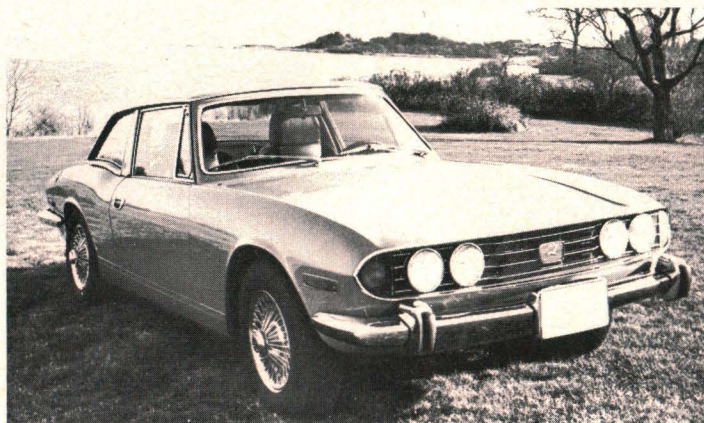
Plans call for such events as demonstration rides on motorized recreation vehicles, ice skating on the canal, trial cruising for snowmobiles and ATV's, dog sled exhibition, a snow building contest, interpretive walks guided by the Parks and Recreation Department's naturalists, an ice fishing clinic conducted by the Pennsylvania State Fish Commission, a mini-fishing contest, an ice skating demonstration on the canal, guided tours of the John Stover House, films and an exhibit of sporting and recreation equipment in the warming barn.

Individual and team competition will be held in events such as the snow shoe trot, ski walk, tug-o-war, a push me/pull me sled and toboggan contest, the Commissioners' Sprint for both snowmobiles and ATV's, time trials in the Tinicum Obstacle/Slalom course.

For those who wish to have a winter picnic cooking fires will be lighted and available in the late

(continued on page 29)

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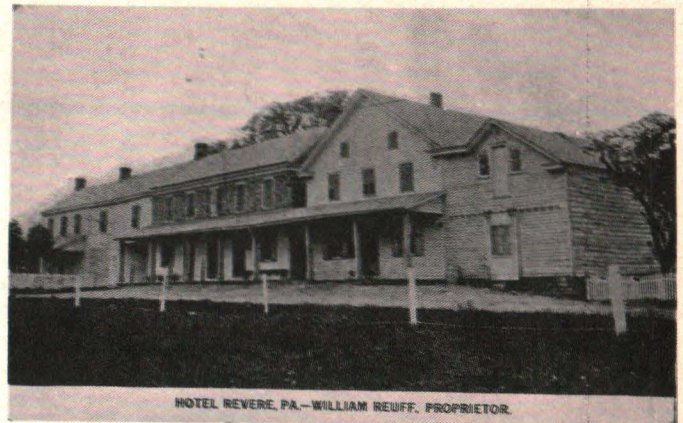
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by Burt Chardak

Among American antiques perhaps the most fascinating is the clock. It goes back to when America was young and fighting for a place in world commerce.

Clever Yankee mechanics, short of good working iron, carved clock works out of hard wood, which was abundant, and shipped them all over the world. By 1830 the manufacture of brass was underway, and soon the American clockmakers, most of them in Connecticut, were turning out clock plates, wheels and gears. Adopting an assembly line technique, they made clock cases for a few dollars. They not only chased English clocks out of this country, but beat the Englishmen at home.

Today, with clock collecting one of the most popular hobbies, the search is on in England and other countries for American clocks. Few old ones turn up any more in American attics.

Probably the most popular among collectors and one of the most difficult to find at a reasonable price is Eli Terry's attractive pillar-and-scroll. Terry patented the wood-works clocks in 1814, and peddled them on horseback at around \$15 each. Using a system of pulleys and cords, the clock ran for 30 hours. Because of this arrangement the clock case had to be rather large.

Unable to meet the demand himself, Terry finally sold the rights to Seth Thomas, and by 1825 Terry and Thomas were rich. The Thomas name is perhaps the best known, however, because the firm manufactures clocks up to the present. The Seth Thomas name will be found on shelf clocks, school-house clocks, railroad clocks, store clocks and others.

Later came the oak and walnut gingerbread clocks, many of which were given free as premiums by big food stores. Today, these clocks bring \$25 to \$45,

(continued on page 23)

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While you may raise a drink and sing "Auld Lang Syne" when the clock strikes 12 on New Year's Eve, your Japanese counterpart may sip cola from America while singing "Otanjobi Omedeto Gozaimasu" ("Happy Birthday To You") — for the stroke of midnight means it's everyone's birthday!

Celebrating the first day of a new year is an age-old custom. Nearly all peoples have marked the coming of the year. However, the time selected as New Year's Day has varied widely. The First Day has been celebrated as early as the autumnal equinox, about September 21, and as late as the summer solstice, about June 21.

In most European countries during the Middle Ages, March 25 was the beginning of the New Year. And legend has it that El Cid, the great hero of Spanish liberation from the Moors, once won a great battle on New Year's day by giving his tired horses generous gulps of sherry the night before.

The Russian people, long ago, gave the New Year a roaring welcome with a hundred cannon shots at midnight.

In ancient China, people took a different approach to the First Day. They cleaned house, paid debts and closed their shops. Then they shot off their firecrackers . . . and who can ever forget a New Year's in Chinatown of a big American city, with its colorful procession and fiery paper dragons breathing good cheer to everyone!

NEW YEAR'S WHAT A DAY

Near China, in old Japan, New Year's was a time for everybody to don new clothes, take three days off from work and visit their friends. Each gatepost would be adorned with green pines and bamboo. And over each door would hang red lobsters, crabs and scarlet tangerines, standing for long life and happiness.

Gypsies in Spain used to marry on New Year's Eve. The 18th century writer George Borrow tells us that a main feature of the bridal ceremony was the feasting associated with it. Once the Gypsy couple took their vows, guests ate and sang and danced throughout the night and day.

Not to be outdone, Italians just consider January 1st as part of their Yuletide festival, and so revel until Twelfth Night, 12 days after Christmas.

In Vive-La-France, New Year's Day is so singular that adults let Christmas pass by and exchange presents on January 1st.

In America today, New Year's festivities range from gala gatherings to cozy conviviality. Regardless of the size of the party, men and women want to look their best on the occasion.

John Ruskin, noted 19th century English critic, once toasted the New Year in by saying: "I consider just and tolerable the drinking of sherry from dawn to dusk . . . Happy New Year!"

Tradition has it that in Scotland the first one in a house on New Year's Day gets a big, big bear hug. Why? Because he has brought the host good luck. Midnight Scot celebrators carry cakes and spiced ale to wish their host a good year.

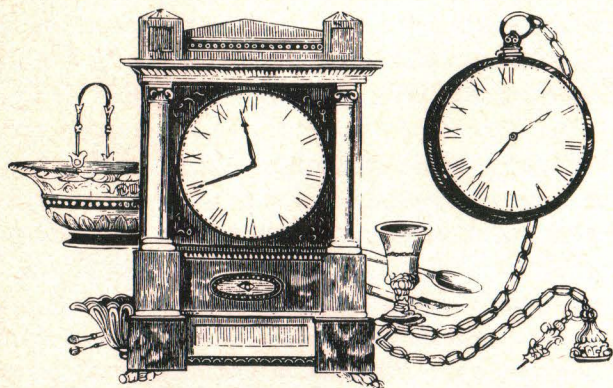
And the same to you!

(ANTIQUE cont. from page 21)

depending on condition.

The fascination of clocks not only lies in their history, but, at least for a man, in the fact they need winding, adjusting and tinkering.

Often a clock will turn up in an auction. It is dirty, the glass is broken and the works are askew. To the



clock collector this is a prize. He'll clean it, refinish the case, replace the glass, make a few minor repairs, find a pendulum, and there it is: tick-tock.

Many clocks that aren't running need only a good cleaning. If you recall, when they were first purchased, they cost only a few dollars. Over the years in the kitchen they gathered grease and dust and finally stopped. The owners, after shaking them a few times, put them up in the attic for they didn't want to spend the money at a repair shop.

Learn to clean them, adjust the verge and the crutch, and you're on the road to being a collector. Soon you'll want to learn more.

Main Line residents and Philadelphians with the clock bug belong to the Philadelphia chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors. At last count there were some 2,000 members in this group.

In the Bucks-Montgomery area, a new club called the Timekeepers, recently was formed. The president, Arthur Naul, of Doylestown recently told me that he bought an Eli Terry Pillar-and-scroll at auction for \$350.

Naul said the clock was found in an outhouse by the man who consigned it to the auction. Apparently, it had been put there many years ago after it stopped running. The finish was poor, the claw feet were missing, but the wooden works were still good. Soon Naul had it in mint condition. Now it's worth \$750 or more.

These are the kind of stories you'll hear if you join a clock club. They'll whet your appetite to search even harder for a rare clock others don't have.



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(STATESMAN con't from page 5)

MacPherson Berrien of Georgia, a Calhoun man like Ingham, was appointed Attorney General, and John Branch of North Carolina, Secretary of the Navy. Wanting one old friend in his Cabinet, someone on whom he could always depend, Jackson appointed John Henry Eaton, also of Tennessee, as Secretary of War.

There was a fatal flaw in the Eaton appointment. Eaton had married Margaret Timberlake, a widow, and daughter of a Washington saloon keeper. Being a saloon keeper's daughter was no help, but the widespread rumor that she and Mr. Eaton had played house while Mr. Timberlake was still alive, made her the Typhoid Mary of Washington society.

By almost universal agreement the Cabinet was pronounced too feeble to stand, and a contemporary pundit noted that the President's enemies were delighted and his friends grieved. Years later, James Hamilton wrote that it was "The most unintellectual and uneducated Cabinet we ever had." At the first public gathering of the new Cabinet John Quincy Adams graciously greeted the other members, but somehow didn't notice the presence of Samuel D. Ingham.

Andrew Jackson hated banks, national and state; and all debt, public and private. He had dedicated his administration to relieving the nation of the burden of both banks and debt. The Bank of the United States did not become his particular target until his second term, but early in his first the Bank made the big news.

Secretary Ingham was not anti-Bank. The Bank of the United States was headquartered in Philadelphia, and Nicholas Biddle, of Philadelphia and Andalusia, was its President. Support for the Bank was an article of faith for Pennsylvania politicians especially in the growing commercial rivalry between Philadelphia and New York. Ingham was primarily a Jacksonian Democrat, however, any hint that other subscribers to the True Faith were not receiving full benefits of membership acted like a fire alarm.

In July 1829 Biddle received a letter of complaint concerning the Bank's branch in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The letter charged that Jeremiah Mason, the local president and Webster (Anti-Jackson) man, had discriminated against true believers in the conduct of the bank's business. In the hope of possibly applying a little political pressure to the privately run bank, the grievant sent a copy of the letter to the Secretary of the Treasury.

The letter had the desired result. Ingham

immediately, and without investigation, fired off a letter to Biddle about the Portsmouth situation and alluded to similar troubles with political undertones in Kentucky and Louisiana. He added the note that the Jackson administration had no desire to "derive political aid from the bank." When Ingham's letter was followed by a letter from the Comptroller of the Currency, a Treasury official, requesting a change in the administration of the Portsmouth branch, Biddle, with understandable logic, assumed that the Bank was being subject to official threats.

After thoroughly investigating the charges Biddle reported to Ingham that they were groundless adding that he would resist any attempt to make the Bank an instrument of any political party. Without providing any background information, the Secretary foolishly forwarded Biddle's letter to the President. Old Hickory bristled and instructed Ingham to reply pledging the President's constitutional powers, through the Congress, to redress grievances by the people concerning bank interference in politics.

Despite Jackson's feelings, Ingham finally convinced Biddle that the administration was not hostile. Biddle felt that Ingham and Jackson seriously believed the charges and suggested that Ingham was an unconscious tool. A tool of whom? Some historians have suggested that it might have been part of a Van Buren plot to discredit the Calhoun men in the Cabinet. The bank, facing reality, became very considerate in its business dealings with Jacksonian Democrats. The fire had been extinguished, but there was plenty of unburned political fuel in the furnace of the Bank of the United States.

The major disease that afflicted the Jackson Cabinet was called "Eaton Malaria." As far as Mrs. Calhoun and the cabinet wives were concerned, Peggy Eaton didn't exist. The great chill, led by Mrs. Calhoun and Deborah Ingham, set in at the Inaugural party, and the wife of the Secretary of War was never called on or received by the other cabinet wives. Any social gathering, fortunately there were few, divided into two camps. The Secretary of State, however, smiled inwardly. He had no wife to be outraged, and he was able to enjoy the President's favor as Peggy Eaton's champion.

"Eaton Malaria" quickly spread from the social to the official arena. Ingham, Berrien, and Branch barely spoke to Eaton. Completely frustrated, Jackson suspended Cabinet meetings for 15 months and the wheels of government virtually ground to a halt. Despite his loyalty, Jackson realized that Eaton, plus Ingham, Berrien, and Branch had to go. Ingham had become an irritation, his removal had been urged by a

number of Pennsylvanians and was felt to be too soft on the Bank. The President no longer trusted John C. Calhoun, and any trace of Calhoun influence had to be eliminated. It was time to clean house, but how could it be done without losing Eaton's friendship. A governmental crisis had arisen.

Almost every crisis produces its hero. In this case the hero was the political genius Martin Van Buren, standing ready and eager to be written into Andrew Jackson's political will. Van Buren promised the President that he could set up the housecleaning without offending Eaton.

In a private conversation with Eaton, the wily Martin confided that he was intending to resign since he felt that he was damaging the unity of the Cabinet and standing in the way of the efficient functioning of the administration. Eaton, a basically sensitive man, protested that he should be the one to resign since he and his wife seemed to be the cause of the disunity. It was finally agreed that they would both resign, Van Buren's plan all along.

With Eaton and Van Buren out of the way, the President had a good excuse for a clean sweep, and in April 1831 asked for and received the resignations of Ingham, Branch, and Berrien. Eaton was later appointed to a Senate vacancy from Tennessee and the hero, Martin Van Buren, was figuratively written into the will and appointed Minister to Great Britain, a position he carefully selected to enhance his political prestige.

With the Cabinet dissolved, and any need for

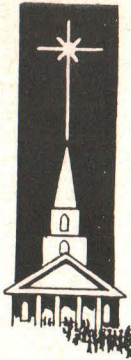
circumspection gone, John Eaton took off his kid gloves. Demands for satisfaction were promptly issued to Ingham, Branch, and Berrien and were summarily refused. Ingham's response, although unrecorded, is said to have been particularly insulting. Since Deborah Ingham was one of the leaders of the great chill, this was double dishonor for Eaton. Samuel D. Ingham spent his last days in Washington traveling the back streets and alleys dodging John Eaton who, armed with a horsewhip and a pistol, was searching for him high and low. Almost 20 years after he first entered Washington as a Congressman, the former Secretary of the Treasury left quietly and in the middle of the night.

Samuel Ingham never again held public office or engaged in political activity. He must have thought to himself, as thousands have, that Washington is no place for a country boy. While he retired from politics, he never retired from business. The mills flourished and so did the farm. He became an active member of all of the agricultural societies in Bucks County, and, always interested in new business ventures, was active in the development of upstate anthracite coal fields and the canals that carried the coals to market.

Bucks County's greatest statesman moved to Trenton, New Jersey, in 1849. He died in Trenton on June 5, 1860. He is buried, however, in the churchyard of the Thompson Memorial Church, Solebury Township, the church he attended for many years.



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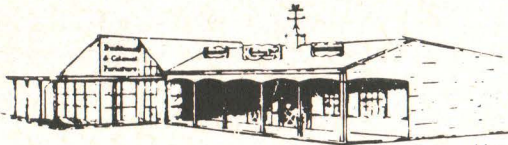
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(RUSS con't from page 11)

pitched; Bob Fighera, who caught; Bill Robinson, Larry Ely, Dale Cartwright, Skeetz Wismer, Andy McClintock, Ray Martindell, Walt Phillips, Ray Young, Nails Gross and Reds Bowman.

With Miss E. Gladys Harman and Mrs. Joseph J. Conroy as the co-chairladies a bridge tea was given by St. Paul's Episcopal Auxiliary in the church school rooms with 15 tables in play. Miss Hayman, who said the sum of \$50 was cleared, announced that Miss Laura V. Anderson received the door prize, and Mrs. George S. Hotchkiss and Mrs. Calvin S. Boyer received special favors. Mrs. Arthur M. Eastburn poured. There were a number of out-of-town guests.

* * *

THE BUCKS COUNTY MIRROR, once published in Doylestown every Friday, lists under the captions of "Local Intelligence" some of the following items on May 26, 1893: The board of poor directors of Bucks County met in regular session at the almshouse on Tuesday, all the members, Messrs. Johnson, Stever and Fell being present. Stewart Price reported sales of produce amounting to \$303.34; present number of inmates, 127, since last meeting two were discharged, three died, and one eloped; admitted since, eight; born, one. Bills were passed and orders drawn amounting to \$815.23. A requisition for \$2,000 was made on the county commissioners on account of appropriation for current expenses.

* * *

JOHN HART, of the banking firm of John Hart & Co., purchased the old and well known Harvey Avenue property at the corner of Main and Court Sts., Doylestown, for \$10,500. The stone mansion was one of the oldest in town, erected in 1813 by Enoch Harvey, father of the late Dr. George T. Harvey who occupied the place all his life.

THE MARRIAGE of District Attorney Paul H. Applebach and Miss May Hulshizer was solemnized at their future home on Court Street, Doylestown with the Rev. W. Hayes Moore of the Doylestown Presbyterian Church presiding. The ushers were Henry A. James and Mahlon H. Stout, Esqs.

WEBSTER GRIM, Doylestown attorney has under instruction a male chorus who will sing publicly together for the first time on Memorial Day. The members are Webster Grim, Harry Grim, John L. Shroy, Theodore J. Kline, Frank J. Gerlitzki, Eugene Shuman, Noach L. Clark, J. Freeman Hendricks, Clarence D. Hotchkiss, Dr. W. G. Benner, Harvey Harrold and Frank H. Stover.

(GHOST con't from page 7)

to springs so they could be sure of a continuous water supply. The spring houses had many purposes, including the preserving of foods. Caves were dug for this reason by owners of homes not having spring houses because the preservation of vegetables and fruits was necessary in seasons when harvesting wasn't done and food was scarce. The floors of the spring houses were washed everyday by the women in the family. Farther north on the pike are two old homes almost facing each other that were the homes of two farmers, David Fetter and H. D. Lefferts. H. D. Lefferts' home, to the west of the pike, was built in 1814. He owned 77½ acres. David Fetter had 84½ acres to the east of the pike. Because of an earlier business deal the two men never got along. It was reported in the Delaware Valley Advance around 1887, that the two men had an altercation because the Fetter children were seen crossing the Lefferts' farm. Lefferts ran out and shouted at them to get off his property. David Fetter heard the yelling and told his children to keep going. One word led to another and soon the two men were trading punches and rolling on the ground. Fetter was getting the best of the fight until Lefferts called his dog. The dog, a huge Newfoundland, bit Fetter, tearing his clothes and turning the tide of the fight. The fisticuffs over, both men went before a magistrate, one to Finney and the other to Hogeland, to obtain warrants. Later they were both ordered to pay \$600 to answer the charges of assault and battery. This incident now is just a nostalgic reminder of Bucks County's past to those who are old enough to remember.

Unfortunately, with the passing of time and the widening of Second Street Pike in 1964, Springville all but disappeared. Trying to straighten the curve in the Pike moved the road east which caused the razing of another old home, its barn and spring house, on the southeast corner. Gebharts were the last to live here. All that survives today is a tall pine tree, once a Christmas tree that was put out in a wooden bucket in the kitchen garden and rooted through the rotting container.

"Jamelia" on the northeast corner, built in 1727, was originally a tenant house on Fetter's farm for the workers, but remodeling has turned the once-small building into a large, beautiful residence shaded by tall, stately trees. Standing catty-corner across the intersection from the house where the store and Springville's first post office were located, it presents a picturesque reminder to passing motorists of Bucks County's ghost towns.



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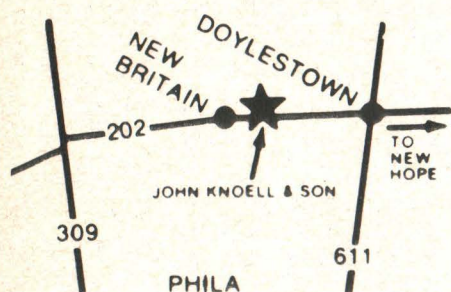
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(BOOKS con't from page 15)

approached everything with an abundance of vision and dedication, but with a total lack of tact. In the course of his intellectual expeditions he often changed his mind on details, but seldom varied from his principles. The result is that his wake is littered with great numbers of both accomplishments and enemies.

Professor Hawke deals sympathetically with a difficult and complex character. Benjamin Rush left one of the largest collections of private papers to come down from the 18th century. Even with these great resources it would be easy to present a picture of a thoroughly unpleasant man. The author has gone below the surface, however, and the picture that results is that of someone who, like the late Bob Menafee, is opinionated but lovable.

Biographies of great men are frequently dull, but the character of Benjamin Rush would appear to preclude such a possibility in his case. His life, until 1790 when he withdrew from the world of broad controversy, provides a sampler of everything that was happening in America, and Professor Hawke deserves praise for his interesting record of an interesting man.

H.W.B.

MY OWN CAPE COD, by Gladys Taber. J. J. Lippincott Company. Philadelphia and New York. 1971. 251 pp. \$5.95.

Gladys Taber has followed the traditional route for a true Cape Cod buff; from short summer vacation to virtual year-round residence. Her affection for the Cape shines through her very personal account of life there throughout the four seasons. She lucidly describes the tremendous influence of the forces of raw nature on Cape life and brings to the summer-only visitor an insight into what Cape Codders are really like.

As a Cape Cod buff myself, although I haven't gotten beyond the summer vacation phase, I was an avid reader. It is always pleasurable to recognize the familiar in what one is reading, and Mrs. Taber's graphic descriptions, complemented by John Schram's black and white photographs, brought many smiles of recognition.

My Own Cape Cod is recommended to two types of people; those who have been to the Cape and those who have never been to the Cape. If you have been to the Cape reading *My Own Cape Cod* will deepen the resolve you made to return. If you have not been there you might say to yourself, "Why don't we try Cape Cod next summer instead of going to the shore again."

H.W.B.

(FRIENDS con't from page 19)

afternoon. The lighting of a giant bonfire and songfest led by a singing group will close out the day's events. The Delaware Valley Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary will man a refreshment stand in the warming barn while members of the Delaware Valley Volunteer Fire Company will man a first aid station, also located in the warming barn.

In the event proper snow conditions do not prevail on the 9th, the all-day program will be held the following Sunday, January 16.

Except for registration fee of \$2.00 for motorized competition, there will be no admission charge nor fee for any activity. Campsites also will be available free of charge that weekend for winter campers..

The Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreations has announced that ice skating will be permitted at Silver Lake Park, Bristol Township, and Lake Towhee Park, Haycock Township, when conditions are considered safe.

A system of flags is being introduced again this year whereby skaters will be alerted to the ice condition: when a green flag is flying conditions are safe and the ice thickness in the designated areas is a minimum of four inches thick; when a red flag is flying the ice is unsafe and hazardous. Inspection of the ice thickness and posting of the flags will be handled by the Department Park Rangers.

Another safety signal being implemented this season is "Silent Sentry", which will be erected at each skating location. The "Silent Sentry" is primarily a source of available rescue tools in case of an emergency. These tools consist of a reach pole, throw line and ring buoy attached to a flag pole and located within easy access of the water's edge, close to the immediate skating area. Also mounted on the "Silent Sentry" will be instructions outlining the flag system, safety precautions and the Bucks County Police Radio Room phone number to be used for emergency rescue service!

When conditions prevail, skating will be permitted, under the lights, at Silver Lake until 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday nights. Night lighting will also be available at Lake Towhee this season. Both sites will be well supplied with firewood so that skaters can make full use of the County's skating areas. It is also hoped that skating attendants may be on duty at Silver Lake Park this year.

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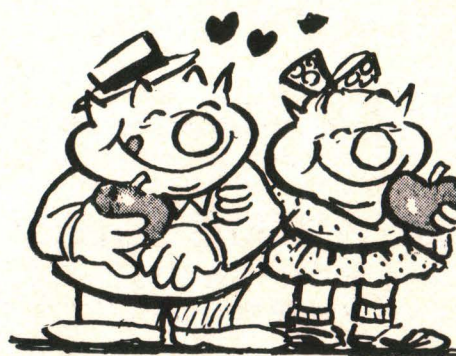
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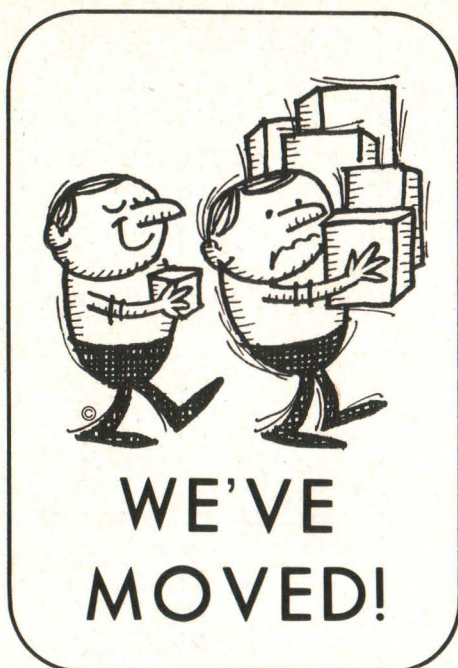
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Among the thousands of persons who happily make this county their home, and the hundreds of readers in our many other areas of distribution, WE KNOW — that there are literally hundreds of YOU possessing hitherto partially or completely undiscovered literary, photographic or artistic talent.

We are seeking not the professionals, no, our honest aim in this venture is to bring to light (and to our readers' enjoyment) fresh, outstanding works and the unusual product that will present our way of life in a completely new way.

Panorama rates are not high, but pay we do and promptly — and all we ask is that you grant us the first publication rights, and return postage to cover the cost of returning photographs, drawings or manuscripts.

In the writing field we ask that you let your article or story reflect the Bucks County setting, history, current events, humor, or personalities. Also, should you have an interesting story but not know how to write it, please don't hesitate to contact us so that a *Panorama* editor may have the chance to write it.

The same requisites are true for both artists and photographers — that your work will reflect the settings, moods, history, or faces of Bucks County. Photographers are asked to be sure that they obtain permission of subject before submitting finished work to us.

All material should be sent to:

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Bucks County Panorama
50 E. Court Street
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COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

Back copies of *Panorama* are available for \$.50 each, post paid. The number is limited. A wealth of interesting historical articles, old pictures of Bucks County, and other articles are contained in each issue.

Feature articles in 1968 include:

- Jan. — *Springhouses*
- Feb. — *Stover Mill*
Lenape Land
- Mar. — *The Irish in Bucks County*
The Warminster Choraliers
- Apr. — *The Mercer Museum*
Gristmills
- May — *Bucks County Birds*
- June — *The Mansions at Washington Crossing*
- July — *Hickory Hollow*
St. James', Bristol
- Aug. — *Historic Homes of Yardley*
Bucks County S.P.C.A.
- Sept. — *Education in Bucks County*
The Windybush Road
- Oct. — *Covered Bridges of Bucks County*
Margaret Grundy Memorial Museum
- Nov. — *George School*
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- Dec. — *Tuckamony Farm and Hillhurst Orchards*
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